

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SS-15 COME-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07

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P 051400Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8955

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 0055

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP EG

SUBJECT: CHEMTEX/DUPONT INTEREST IN EGYPTIAN
POLYESTER PROJECT

REF A. STATE 1373 B. CAIRO 13109 C. CAIRO 12906

1. CHARGE FINALLY CONTACTED MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
SHAHIN WHO HE UNDERSTOOD HAD EARLIER TRIED TO TELE-
PHONE HIM DURING HIS ABSENCE ON LEAVE. (REFTEL B)
WHILE SHAHIN HAD WISHED TO SPEAK TO HIM ON ANOTHER
SUBJECT, CHARGE TOOK OPPOTUNITY TO ASK WHETHER THERE
HAD BEEN ANY CHANGE IN THE GOE DECISION TO AWARD
POLYESTER FIBER CONTRACT TO FRENCH FIRM.

2. SHAHIN AVOIDED DIRECT ANSWER TO QUESTION
BUT STATED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED LETTER FROM
DUPONT AND WAS EXPECTING TO SEE A DUPON DELEGATION
IN CAIRO SHORTLY. IN RESPONSE TO FURTHER QUERY, HOWEVER,
SHAHIN ADMITTED THAT MEETING WOULD DISCUSS
"ADDITIONAL" POLYESTER PROJECT WHICH WOULD BE
JOINT VENTURE.

3. CHARGE ALSO TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO INQUIRE ABOUT
STATUS OF HUNTER ENGINEERING BID FOR ALUMINUM
ROLLING MILL. SHAHIN REPORTED THAT DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
OF GENERAL ORGANIZATION FOR INDUSTRIALISZATION
HASSAN ABDUL FATTAH WAS NEGOTIATING WITH
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"THE TWO PARTIES." SHAHIN REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY

TO CHARGE'S QUERY AS TO WHETHER THIS MEANT
ALUMINUM PROJECT WOULD PROBABLY BE SPLIT BETWEEN
HUNTER AND COMPETING FRENCH FIRM.

4. EMBASSY WAS UNAWARE OF DUPONT'S INTENTION
TO SEND DELEGATION TO CAIRO TO DISCUSS POLYESTER
FIBER JOINT VENTURE. IN LIGHT CHEMTEX
CONVERSATION WITH ACTING SECRETARY (REFTEL A),
WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT SUGGEST THAT
DUPONT DELEGATION TOUCH BASE WITH EMBASSY WHEN IN
CAIRO.
MAESTRONE

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NNN

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